IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re the Application of

Glaucia PARANHOS-BACCALA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1648

Application No.:

09/319,156

Examiner:

J. Parkin

Filed: November 2, 1999

Docket No.: 103514

For:

RETROVIRAL NUCLEIC MATERIAL AND NUCLEOTIDE FRAGMENTS, IN

PARTICULAR, ASSOCIATED WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND/OR RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS, FOR DIAGNOSTIC, PROPHYLACTIC AND

THERAPEUTIC USES

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRAWING CORRECTIONS

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Examiner is requested to review and approve the proposed corrections to Figures 1-16, marked in red on the attached copy of such drawing figures.

The proposed corrections include the insertion of an additional drawing sheet in Figure 4 as Figure 4B (sheet 6/33), this correction not being marked in red since an entire new drawing sheet is being included. Support for the new drawing sheet can be found in the specification as originally filed at page 16, lines 29-32 (page 13, lines 4-6, of the substitute specification being filed herewith) and in original SEQ ID NO: 117, which is being renumbered as SEQ ID NO: 9 in the new Sequence Listing being filed herewith. Original SEQ ID NO: 117 clearly describes the entire nucleotide sequence of Figure 4, including the portion depicted in Figure 4B. In addition, determining the three potential reading frames provided by this nucleotide sequence is within the skill of one of ordinary skill in the art.

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Therefore, including these three potential reading frames in Figure 4B does not set forth any new matter.

Upon approval by the Examiner, and upon allowance of this application, the formal drawings will be corrected.

Respectfully submitted

William P. Berridge

Registration No. 30,024

Melanie L. Mealy

Registration No. 40,085

WPB:MLM/ja

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. Box 19928 Alexandria, Virginia 22320 Telephone: (703) 836-6400